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Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /058 W
----------042216Z 027499 /70
P 042012Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2672

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PGOV, PINT, CA
SUBJECT: TRUDEAU DID A GREAT JOB, BUT...

REF: OTTAWA 1025

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION OTTAWA INFO QUEBEC H/W REPEATED FOR YOUR INFO:

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PGOV, PINT, CA
SUBJECT: TRUDEAU DID A GREAT JOB, BUT . . .

REF: OTTAWA 1025

1. REACTION IN MONTREAL TO TRUDEAU'S VISIT TO WASHINGTON WAS MIXED. MOST ANGLOPHONES SEEM TO FEEL THAT TRUDEAU DID A GOOD JOB IN REPRESENTING CANADA TO AMERICANS, BUT EXTENT TO WHICH THEY ARE WILLING TO EXTEND THIS CREDIT TO HIS ABILITIES AS CANADIAN LEADER DEALING WITH CANADIAN PROBLEMS DEPENDS TO LARGE EXTENT ON THEIR POLITICS. WE FIND LIBERALS HOPING, BUT NOT NECESSARILY BELIEVING, THAT WASHINGTON TRIP REPRESENTS UPTURN IN THEIR FORTURNES AS RESULT OF ENHANCED PRESTIGE OF TRUDEAU.
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AT SAME TIME WE DETECT FEAR THAT PRESENT BUOYANCY, IF IT CAN BE TERMED SUCH, WILL DELIQUESCE BEFORE TRUDEAU CAN COME TO GRIPS WITH HIS POLITICAL PROBLEMS. WHILE IT IS LIKELY THAT TRUDEAU GAINED SOME POINTS FROM HIS WASHINGTON TRIP, WE DOUBT THAT HE ATTRACTED MANY CONVERTS HERE. BUSINESS AND FINANCIAL COMMUNITY STILL BEARS GRUDGE AGAINST TRUDEAU GOVERNMENT, BUT THEY ALSO STILL GRUMBLE ABOUT JOE CLARK, SO THINGS REMAIN MUCH

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AS THEY WERE.

2. FRANCOPHONES IN GENERAL APPEAR TO BE MORE CRITICAL OF TRUDEAU PERFORMANCE. MOST WERE DISAPPOINTED THAT TRUDEAU DID NOT OFFER MORE IN WAY OF NEW IDEAS TO DEAL WITH QUEBEC SITUATION. ATTITUDE IS ONE THAT TIME IS RIPE FOR ACTION, NOT WORDS, AND THAT TRUDEAU MUST ADOPT MORE CONCILIATORY ATTITUDE TOWARD QUEBEC. AFTER WASHINGTON TRIP, MOST STILL SEE TRUDEAU AS BLUNT, GOOD IN ARGUMENT, BUT COMING UP A BUTTON OR TWO SHORT WHEN HE MUST SPEAK FROM THE HEART IN DEALING WITH QUEBEC SITUATION.

3. REACTION IN FRANCOPHONE UNIVERSITIES WAS MOST CRITICAL, WITH DISMAY AT TRUDEAU'S QUEBEC-CUBA COMPARISON, AND HIS NARROWLY DEFINED DESCRIPTION OF THE QUEBEC PROBLEM. NOT SURPRISINGLY, SOME SAW TRUDEAU'S PRAISE OF AMERICAN WAY OF LIFE AS EXCESSIVE. IN THIS CONNECTION, WE HAVE ALSO HEARD A NUMBER OF COMMENTS TO EFFECT THAT ITS ABOUT TIME THAT PRIME MINISTER TRUDEAU STARTED BEING NICE TO THE AMERICANS AGAIN.

4. IN SUM, THE JURY STILL APPEARS TO BE OUT ON PM TRUDEAU. HE LOOKS GOOD, HE SPEAKS WELL, AND THE AMERICANS LIKED HIM, BUT HERE IN QUEBEC, THEY'VE HEARD THE SAME WORDS BEFORE, AND NOW THEY WOULD LIKE SOME ACTION.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Control Number: n/a
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Sent Date: 04-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
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Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
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